

Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Regulations

Minimum Standards Section 4VAC50-30-40

Minimum Standard 1 – Permanent or temporary soil stabilization shall be applied to denuded areas within seven days after final grade is reached on any portion of the site. Temporary soil stabilization shall be applied within seven days to denuded areas that may not be at final grade but will remain dormant for longer than 30 days, but less than 1 year. Permanent stabilization shall be applied to areas that are to be left dormant for more than one year.

Minimum Standard 2 – During construction, soil stockpiles and borrow areas shall be stabilized or protected with sediment trapping measures. Temporary protection and permanent stabilization shall be applied to all stockpiles on site and borrow areas or soil intentionally transferred off site.

Minimum Standard 3 – Permanent vegetative cover shall be established on denuded areas not otherwise permanently stabilized. Ground cover must be uniform, mature enough to survive and inhibit erosion.

Minimum Standard 4 – Sediment basins, sediment traps, perimeter dikes, sediment barriers, and other measures intended to trap sediment shall be constructed as a first step in any land-disturbing activity and shall be made functional before upslope land disturbance takes place.

Minimum Standard 5 – Stabilization measures shall be applied to earthen structure such as dams, dikes, and diversions immediately after installation.

Minimum Standard 6 – Sediment traps and basins shall be designed and constructed based upon the total drainage area to be served by the trap or basin per the VESCH.

Minimum Standard 7 – Cut and fill slopes shall be designed and constructed in a manner that will minimize erosion. Slopes found to be eroding excessively within one year of permanent stabilization shall be provided with additional slope stabilizing measures until the problem is corrected.

Minimum Standard 8 – Concentrated runoff shall not flow down cut or fill slopes unless contained within an adequate temporary or permanent channel, flume, or slope drain structure.

Minimum Standard 9 – Whenever water seeps from a slope face, adequate drainage or other protection shall be provided.

Minimum Standard 10 – All storm sewer inlets made operable during construction shall be protected so that sediment-laden water cannot enter the stormwater conveyance system without first being filtered/treated to remove sediment.

Minimum Standard 11 – Before newly constructed stormwater conveyance channels or pipes are made operational, adequate outlet protection and any required temporary or permanent channel lining shall be installed in both the conveyance channel and the receiving channel.

Minimum Standard 12 – When work in a live watercourse is performed: 1) precautions shall be taken to minimize encroachment, control sediment transport, and stabilize the work area to the greatest extent possible during construction and 2) nonerodible material shall be used for the construction of causeways and cofferdams and 3) earthen fill may be used for these structures if armored by nonerodible cover materials.

Minimum Standard 13 – When a live watercourse must be crossed by construction vehicles more than twice in any six month period, a temporary vehicular stream crossing constructed of nonerodible material shall be provided.

Minimum Standard 14 – All applicable federal, state and local regulations pertaining to working in or crossing live watercourses shall be met.

Minimum Standard 15 – The bed and banks of a water course shall be stabilized immediately after work in the watercourse is completed.

Minimum Standard 16 – Underground utility lines shall be installed in accordance with the following standards in addition to other applicable criteria: 1) No more than 500 linear feet of trench may be opened at one time; 2) Excavated material shall be placed on the uphill side of trenches; 3) Effluent from dewatering operations shall be filtered or passed through an approved sediment trapping device, or both, and discharged in a manner that does not adversely affect flowing streams or off-site property; 4) Material used for backfilling trenches shall be properly compacted in order to minimize erosion and promote stabilization; 5) Re-stabilization shall be accomplished in accordance with these regulations; 6) Comply with applicable safety regulations

Minimum Standard 17 – Where construction vehicle access routes intersect paved or construction vehicle access routes intersect paved or public roads: a) Provisions shall be made to minimize the transport of sediment by vehicular tracking onto the paved surface. b) Where sediment is transported onto a paved or public road surface, the road surface shall be cleaned thoroughly at the end of each day. c) Sediment shall be removed from the roads by shoveling or sweeping and transported to a sediment control disposal area. Street washing shall be allowed only after sediment is removed in this manner.

Minimum Standard 18 – All temporary erosion and sediment control measures shall be removed within 30 days after final site stabilization or after the temporary measures are no longer needed, unless otherwise authorized by the program authority. Trapped sediment and the disturbed soil areas resulting from the disposition of temporary measures shall be permanently stabilized to prevent further erosion and sedimentation.

Minimum Standard 19 – Properties and waterways downstream from development sites shall be protected from sediment deposition, erosion, and damage due to increases in volume, velocity, and peak flow rate of stormwater runoff for the stated frequency storm of 24-hour duration in accordance with the following standards and criteria: Concentrated stormwater runoff leaving a development site shall be discharged directly into an adequate natural or man-made receiving channel, pipe, or storm sewer system. For those sites where runoff is discharged into a pipe or pipe system, downstream stability analyses at the outfall of the pipe or pipe system shall be performed.